

Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

Cultural and Creative Industries Strategy – Interim Summary Report

Date of Commission meeting: 7th Sept 2023

Lead Director: Mike Dalzell



Useful Information:

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Graham Callister, Head of Festivals, Events & Cultural Policy
- Author contact details graham.callister@leicester.gov.uk /
- Date of Exec meeting Draft Report went to CMB 05/07/2023

1. Summary

1.1. The purpose of the report is:

- To update Scrutiny Commission members on the Cultural and Creative Industries Interim Summary Report
- To seek comment from Scrutiny Commission members on the Interim Summary Report

1.2. Overview

Leicester City Council and its partners (De Montfort University, University of Leicester and Arts Council England) appointed consultants The Fifth Sector in November 2022 to help develop and shape a cultural and creative industries strategy for Leicester.

1.3. Work to date

The Fifth Sector undertook a series of place-based community workshops and research phases between December 2022 and March 2023, reporting regularly to a Project Steering Group.

The purpose of the strategy is to help the city raise its collective ambition, create a compelling vision for what it can become and guide priorities for the next five years, 2023-2027.

Summary information about the current state of Leicester's creative industries, the creative skills and education offer, and examples of Leicester's rich culture and heritage are referenced in the document.

An Interim Report was produced in April 2023, summarising research findings and outlining a vision, model and priorities for the strategy. This document summarises the interim report and seeks comment on the draft vision, the proposed strategic objectives, actions and measures of success.

It includes proposals for a new strategic and delivery partnership via a new Cultural Compact – Creative Leicester (working title).

An online survey inviting sector responses to the Summary Interim Report is currently live with a closing date of Sunday 10th Sept 2023.

The Interim Summary Report is attached for comment in Appendix 1.

2. Recommendation(s) to scrutiny

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- Note the SWOT analysis and vision for the city's Cultural and Creative Industries.
- Note the 5 Strategic Themes identified and proposed Actions:
 - Strategic Theme 1 – Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
 - Strategic Theme 2 – Audience Development
 - Strategic Theme 3 – Capital Investment and Public Spaces
 - Strategic Theme 4 – Creative Industries Development
 - Strategic Theme 5 – Creative Talent and Skills
- Note the proposal for a Cultural Compact, Creative Leicester (working title)

3. Supporting Information

N/A

4. Financial, legal and other implications

4.1 Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. The financial implications associated with the development of a Cultural Compact will need to be considered as options for this are explored.

Stuart McAvoy – Head of Finance

4.2 Legal implications

There are no apparent issues arising from the recommendations in this report from a legal perspective.

There may be issues that Legal can assist with around the anticipated partnerships with universities, cultural representative bodies and other third parties. The team will be able to provide agreements (even if informal) that may be useful in outlining the agreed input to collaborative ventures or supportive arrangements. This may be particularly important in terms of the potential creative/intellectual property rights that may be outcomes from these potential relationships.

The report does mention “an online survey” that asked for sector responses to the Summary Interim Report by 10/09/2023. If further advice is required on (i) whether this could be seen as a formal consultation and (ii) if so, the requirements for dealing

with responses in accordance with usual legal practices, please contact the Legal team for further information.

Emma Young
Qualified Lawyer
Legal Services

4.3. Climate Change implications

Overall, the draft proposals do not have significant climate emergency implications. However, Leicester's cultural and creative industries – along with all its economic sectors – nonetheless do contribute to the city's carbon emissions and will be impacted as the climate continues to change. It is therefore important that initiatives to promote climate action in the local economy as a whole support cultural and creative businesses to make changes. This includes making cultural sector buildings more energy efficient (hence reducing their running costs), looking at potential for renewable energy generation and low carbon heating and promoting sustainable travel by culture sector organisations and their audiences.

Duncan Bell, Change Manager (Climate Emergency). Ext. 37 2249

4.4 Equality Impact Assessment

When making decisions, the Council must comply with the public sector equality duty (PSED) (Equality Act 2010) by paying due regard, when carrying out their functions, to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a 'protected characteristic' and those who do not.

Protected characteristics under the public sector equality duty are age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The report provides an update on the Cultural and Creative Industries Interim summary report and seeks comments from Scrutiny Commission, on the work carried out to date by The Fifth Sector, appointed consultants, to help develop and shape a cultural and creative industries strategy for Leicester. As part of the ongoing work to develop the strategy we need to be clear about any equalities implications of the course of action proposed. We must consider the likely impact on those likely to be affected by the options and proposed actions (e.g. five strategic themes have been identified along with proposed actions including themes on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Audience Development), their protected characteristics, and (where negative impacts are anticipated) mitigating actions that can be taken to reduce or remove that negative impact.

It is recommended that Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are carried out as appropriate across the five strategic themes to demonstrate that the consideration of equalities impacts have been taken into account and are an integral part of the process of implementing the report recommendations.

The EIA process can support the Council to predict possible issues and take appropriate action such as removing or mitigating any negative impacts, where possible, and maximising any potential for positive impact. The EIA is an iterative

process and should be revisited as part of the decision-making process.

Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer, 454 4175

4.5 Other Implications

(You will have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate any which apply?)

N/A

5. Background information and other papers:

6. Summary of appendices: Appendix 1 – Interim Summary Report

7. Is this a private report ? NO

(If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)